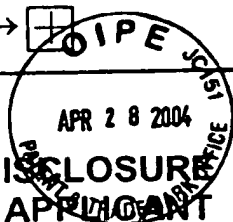


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →



Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 10/686,777 |
| Filing Date | October 17, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | BARRE et al. |
| Group Art Unit | Unassigned |
| Examiner Name | Unassigned |
| Attorney Docket Number | 402842 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Doc. No. | U.S. Patent Document | | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Date of Publication | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|----------------------|----------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Application or Patent Number | Kind Code | | | |
| Ry | A 1 | 4,061,818 | | DUCKETT et al. | 12/6/1977 | |
| | A 2 | 5,066,537 | | O'RELL et al. | 11/19/1991 | |
| | A 3 | 5,352,507 | | BRESSON et al. | 10/4/1994 | |
| | A 4 | 5,478,637 | | TOMONO et al. | 12/26/1995 | |
| | A 5 | 2002/0073859 | | VROTACOE et al. | 6/20/2002 | |
| | A 6 | 2003/0000404 | | VROTACOE et al. | 1/2/2003 | |
| Ry | A 7 | 2003/0124926 | | MOSCATO et al. | 7/3/2003 | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Doc. No. | Foreign Patent Document | | | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Date of Publication | Translation | |
|----------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|------|
| | | Office | Application or Patent Number | Kind Code | | | Yes | No** |
| Ry | A 8 | FR | 2 809 665 | | Moscato Jean Pierre et al. | 12/7/2001 | | X+ |
| Ry | A 9 | EPO | 1 275 520 | | PALMATIER et al. | 1/15/2003 | | X+ |
| Ry | A 10 | EPO | 0 479 591 | | O'RELL et al. | 4/8/1992 | | X+ |

OTHER - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Doc. No. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number (s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation | |
|----------------------|----------|--|-------------|------|
| | | | Yes | No** |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Examiner Signature

Ren Yan

Date Considered

1/7/05

- * A concise statement of relevance is being submitted in lieu of a translation. 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).
- + An English-language equivalent/patent, or an English-language abstract, or an English-language version of the search report or action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted in lieu of a concise explanation of relevance under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).